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PP RUEHFK RUEHKSO RUEHNH  
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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3984  
INFO RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 1654  
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 3219  
RUEHDJ/AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI PRIORITY 0014  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 2447  
RUEHMK/AMEMBASSY MANAMA PRIORITY 0222  
RUEHMS/AMEMBASSY MUSCAT PRIORITY 0024  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 6538  
RUEHPG/AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY 0265  
RUEHYN/AMEMBASSY SANAA PRIORITY 0166  
RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA PRIORITY 4789  
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA PRIORITY 7120  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE PRIORITY 8592  
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO PRIORITY 5315  
RHMFISS/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/CJCS WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY  
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI PRIORITY  
RHOVVKG/COMSEVENTHFLT PRIORITY  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RHMFISS/DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUENAAA/SECNAV WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUEHKO/USDAO TOKYO JA PRIORITY  
RHMFISS/USFJ PRIORITY  
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 001414

SIPDIS

STATE PM FOR RUGGIERO AND DELAWIE  
STATE PM/PPA FOR HOPKINS  
STATE PM/ISO FOR FREDERICK  
STATE EEB/TRA FOR JOHN BYERLY AND STEPHEN MILLER

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JA  
SUBJECT: JAPAN PREPARING SPECIAL MEASURES BILL ON DPRK  
CARGO INSPECTION

Classified By: Charge d' Affaires James P. Zumwalt, reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

11. (C) Summary: The Japanese government is preparing a special measures bill that would authorize Japan to inspect cargo on DPRK ships beyond the limits of Japan's territorial waters. The government plans to submit the bill to the Diet in the current session, which ends 28 July. Key aspects of the bill remain under debate, however. One contentious issue is whether the Japan Coast Guard (JCG) or the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Forces (JMSDF) should have the lead role in inspections. Conservative politicians argue that the JMSDF would show a stronger response, while others insist Japan should rely on the interdiction expertise of the Coast Guard. Japanese government contacts note that given concerns surrounding the DPRK's nuclear program, bureaucrats are under extreme pressure to finish the draft legislation within the next 7-10 days. End summary.

12. (C) In contrast to anti-piracy operations far from Japan's shores, the Coast Guard should be the logical choice as the lead agency to interdict suspect DPRK vessels, according to MOFA National Security Division Principal Deputy Director Shingo Miyamoto. The Coast Guard performs thousands of vessels inspections and boardings each year, and has

expertise and experience that the JMSDF lacks. (Note: In the current anti-piracy operation in the Horn of Africa, several Coast Guard personnel are embarked on JMSDF destroyers for the purpose of leading any boarding operations that may occur. End note.) Japanese government officials who work on interdiction issues understand that the Coast Guard is the "appropriate choice," according to Miyamoto, but conservative political leaders are arguing the JMSDF should take the lead. Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) leaders like Taku Yamasaki argue that sending the JMSDF to intercept and board suspect vessels will "show a stronger posture" to the DPRK.

13. (C) MOFA, the Ministry of Defense (MOD), and the Cabinet Office are under pressure to complete work on the draft legislation so it can be considered and completed prior to the 28 July end of the current Diet session. Given the growing concern in Japan over the DPRK's nuclear program and generally good support for a strong response, MOFA interlocutors don't expect the opposition Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) to attempt to stall the bill's passage. However, some on the left of the DPJ, along with the Japan Communist Party and Social Democratic Party are expected to sharply criticize any expansion of the SDF role into cargo inspection, citing constitutional restrictions on any use of force by the SDF.  
ZUMWALT